

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1-12 (Canceled)

Claim 13 (new): A system for indicating proper sterilization of a mail article, the system comprising:

 a mail article;

 a stamp affixed to the mail article, the stamp having a first indicator and a second indicator;

 the first indicator providing a value of postage paid for delivery of the mail article;

 the second indicator providing a first color indication and a second color indication, the first color indication providing an indication that the mail article is unsterilized and the second color indicator providing an indication that the mail article is sterilized;

 the second indicator changing from the first color indication to the second color indication when the mail article is subjected to a sterilization apparatus radiating an energy beam onto the mail article.

Claim 14 (new): The method of visually identifying to a person by a human readable color code uniquely signifying the completion of a sterilization process on a mail article, the method comprising the steps of:

 providing a mail article

establishing a relationship between a first human distinguishable color and a first condition of the mail article, wherein the first condition occurs when the mail article has not undergone a successful energy beam sterilization process;

establishing a relationship between a second human distinguishable color and a second condition of the mail article, wherein the second condition occurs when the mail article has undergone a successful energy beam sterilization process;

establishing a first human visually distinguishable color zone which corresponds to the first human distinguishable color;

establishing a second human visually distinguishable color zone which corresponds to the second human distinguishable color;

establishing a value of postage paid for delivery of the mail article;

establishing the first and second human visually distinguishable color zones on the mail article whereby the human can effectively determine if the sterilization process has been completed on the mail article; and

establishing the value of postage paid on a location where the first and second human visually distinguishable color zones are established on the mail article.